

INFORMATION SHEET

ORDER NO.
CHEVRON USA, INCORPORATED
FOR CLOSURE
MIDWAY SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL SITE
SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY

Chevron USA, Incorporated, a Pennsylvania Corporation, owns and operates an industrial solid waste landfill about one-half mile west of the unincorporated community of Fellows.

The landfill is near the western edge of the San Joaquin Valley near the boundary with the Temblor Range. The climate is semi-arid, with hot, dry summers and cool winters. The average annual precipitation is about 5.6 inches, with an annual average pan evaporation of 96 inches. The site is not within a 100-year floodplain according to FEMA data.

The facility is in an area of known seismic activity in which active and potentially active faults exist. The closest Holocene fault is the San Andreas Fault located approximately 15 miles to the west of the facility. Recorded magnitudes of seismic events along this fault range between 4.0 and 8.25 on the Richter scale. The estimated peak horizontal acceleration for the site is 0.25g. The site is not within a known fault hazard zone.

Surface drainage is toward Buena Vista Creek in the Taft Hydrologic Area (557.20) of the Tulare Lake Basin. Surface waters in the Taft Hydrologic Area are designated as Valley Floor Waters in the Basin Plan.

The waste management facility contains one existing 4.2-acre unlined waste management unit (Unit) in which nonputrescible industrial solid waste was discharged. Discharge of waste ceased in 1999. The Discharger has proposed closing the landfill and constructing a final cover using an engineered alternative design.

The proposed engineered alternative cover design for the Unit is an evapo-transpirative design consisting of a four-foot thick vegetated soil layer. The final cover will be constructed with a pan lysimeter beneath it to monitor the effectiveness of the final cover. The Discharger adequately demonstrated that construction of a Title 27 prescriptive standard cover would be unreasonable and unnecessarily burdensome when compared to the proposed engineered alternative design.

The first encountered subsurface fluid consists of oil and tar at about 328 feet below the ground surface. Borehole data indicates that there is no groundwater present beneath the site within the upper 1,000 feet of sediments. The requirement for a detection monitoring program has been waived by the Regional Board.

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The action to revise waste discharge requirements for this existing facility is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Public Resource Code §21000, et seq., and the CEQA guidelines, in accordance with Title 14, CCR, §15201. Revision of the waste discharge requirements updates the requirements to conform with the California Water Code and Title 27, California Code of Regulations, §20005 et seq.

REH:reh/rac:5/25/2005